

# Six Lancaster County School District Schools receive Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards

The State Board of Education, working with the Education Oversight Committee and the Department of Education, has established the Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards Program to recognize and reward schools for academic achievement and for closing the achievement gap. Awards are given to schools attaining high levels of absolute performance, for schools attaining high rates of growth and for schools making substantial progress in closing the achievement gap between disaggregated groups. The award program is based on improved performance on longitudinally matched student data and may include such additional criteria as:

- (1) student attendance;
- (2) teacher attendance;
- (3) graduation rates; and
- (4) other factors promoting or maintaining high levels of achievement and performance. Schools are rewarded according to specific criteria established by the division. In defining eligibility for a reward for high levels of performance, student performance should exceed expected levels of improvement. The State Board of Education promulgates regulations to ensure districts of the State utilize these funds to improve or maintain exceptional performance according to their schools plans established in Section 59-139-10. Funds are utilized for professional development support.

The criteria and procedures for selecting schools to receive the Gold and Silver Awards were developed by Education Oversight Committee. The chart below lists the criteria for general performance.

**Summary of Criteria for General Performance  
Palmetto Gold and Silver Awards Program**

School Type*	Indicators	Palmetto Gold	Palmetto Silver
Elementary and Middle Schools	Academic Achievement  Student Progress	Excellent Academic Achievement and Excellent Student Progress; <b>or</b>  Excellent Academic Achievement and Good Student Progress, <b>or</b>  Good Academic Achievement and Excellent Student Progress	Average Academic Achievement and Excellent Student Progress; <b>or</b>  Good Academic Achievement and Good Student Progress; <b>or</b>  Excellent Academic Achievement and Average Student Progress.
High Schools	Academic Achievement Preparing for Success Graduation Rate College/Career Readiness	Excellent rating on 3 out of the 4 indicators; <b>and</b>  Minimum rating of Good on the fourth indicator; <b>and</b>  Overall report card rating of Excellent or Good	Minimum rating of Good on 3 out of the 4 indicators; <b>and</b> No rating lower than Average on the fourth indicator; <b>and</b> Overall report card rating of Average or above

*\* No school designated as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school or an Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) school is eligible to receive a Palmetto Gold or Silver Award.*

*Information and criteria taken from the Accountability Manual for the Annual School and District Report Card System for South Carolina Public Schools and School Districts*

**Schools that received silver awards for 2017-2018 are Buford Elementary and Indian Land Middle.**

**Schools that received gold awards for 2018-2019 are Buford Elementary, Harrisburg Elementary and Indian Land Elementary.**

**Schools that received silver awards for 2018-2019 are Heath Springs Elementary, Indian Land High and Indian Land Middle.**